

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Erich Bott et al  
Application Number: Unassigned  
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith  
Group Art Unit:  
Examiner:  
Title: VACUUM CLEANER COMPRISING AN ELASTIC  
BUMPER STRIP

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, I am submitting a completed "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" (*Form PTO/SB/08A*) with patents and/or publications as delineated therein attached.

DE 87 08 238 U1 discloses a floor vacuum cleaner with a vacuum cleaner housing having a rear wall, an upper and lower section and having an engine blower area, dust collecting area, an area for a cable winding-on equipment, and an exhaust air filter covers. The housing sections and the individual areas are sealed by means of a joint sealer, and the joint sealer also forms an impact guard for the vacuum cleaner housing. The joint sealer connects the impact guard (10) around the overall vacuum cleaner housing and is broadened in the area of the rear wall.

DE 33 30 201 A1 discloses that a floor vacuum cleaner has a handle 4 with a continuous gripping opening in the region of a short front narrow side of the housing 1. On the outer contour of the handle 4 there is a bumper strip 5 guided up to the adjacent long narrow side 7. In order to achieve an improved protection of the housing in the frontal region, the bumper strip 5 is assigned an attachment 8 which extends at least over a partial area of the narrow side 2 assigned to the handle 4.


DE 87 11 960 U1 discloses a vacuum cleaner housing for a floor vacuum cleaner having a flexible impact protection. The impact protection volume consists of a ridge (6) that is fastened to the vacuum cleaner housing (1, 2) with a long side (7) opposite the vacuum

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cleaner housing (1, 2) extending diagonally outward. A pitch exists between the attachment place of the ridge (6) to the vacuum cleaner housing (1) and up to its free long side (7).

If no translation of pertinent portions of any foreign language patents or publications mentioned within the "INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS" is included with the aforementioned copies of those applications, patents and/or publications, it is because no existing translation is readily available to the Applicants. As per the Notice in 1273 OG 55 (August 5, 2003) no copies of any above-mentioned US patents and US patent application publications are submitted for this application which was filed after June 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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June 15, 2005

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

**(Use as many sheets as necessary)**

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**Complete if Known**

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IC09 Rec'd PGT/PTO 15 JUN 2005

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Erich Bott et al
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	2002P01512WOUS

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

**Examiner  
Signature**

/Bryan Muller/

Date  
Considered

11/21/2007

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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